

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 01036 021146Z

47

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 MC-02 DRC-01 /115 W

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R 021021Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2049

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1036

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP MOPS SO UR

SUBJECT: SOMALI MIG-21'S

ALTHOUGH MIG-21'S HAVE BEEN SIGHTED FLYING AROUND MOGADISCIO SINCE WEEK OF 27 MAY, EMBOFF HAD GOOD CHANCE TO WATCH MANEUVERS JUNE 30. SERIES OF MANEUVERS PRODUCED SONIC BOOM OVER CITY APPROXIMATELY 1030 AM JUNE 30 LOCAL TIME. EMBOFF SAW SINGLE MIG-21 LAND AT AIRPORT FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER AFTER LOW PASS ALONG AIRSTRIP. LANDING WAS WITH AID OF DRAG CHUTE AND UTILIZED LESS THAN HALF OF RUNWAY, INCLUDING TAXI SPACE. MIG TOOK OFF AGAIN AT APPROXIMATELY 1100 AM LOCAL IN FULL VIEW AIRPORT AND TEN MINUTES LATER CONTRAIL WAS VISIBLE HIGH OVER CITY. SERIES OF ABRUPT KINKS IN CONTRAIL SUGGESTS MIG MAY HAVE BEEN UNDERGOING TESTING MANEUVERS.

2. MIG-21 THAT PERFORMED JUNE 30 WAS PAINTED LIGHT SAND OR BEIGE AND IS READILY DISTINGUISHABLE BOTH IN PROFILE AND COLOR FROM OLDER VINTAGE DARK GRAY MIG'S PARKED ON RAMP AT NORTHWEST END OF RUNWAY. IN ADDITION TO MIG-21 THAT PERFORMED JUNE 30, TWO SIMILARLY-PAINTED SAND-COLORED MIG-21'S PARKED ON APRON NORTHEAST OF RUNWAY.

KIRK

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